

Amendments to the Claims:

1 - 2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A fixture system for supporting subscriber specific fiber optic drop wire of the type comprising a pair of tensile members and a optical fiber therebetween extending from a cable closure containing a connection between the fiber optic drop wire and a fiber optic cable supported by utility poles, said fixture system comprising

a pair of bend radius protectors, each having grooved periphery of a radius at least as great as the minimum drop wire bend radius but less than the fiber optic cable bend radius, and

means for suspending each bend radius protector from the cable.

4. (currently amended) The fixture system of claim 3, wherein said radius is not greater than three inches.

5. (currently amended) The fixture system of claim 3, further comprising a drop wire clamp which may be secured to one of said poles wherein the drop wire extends from the cable closure, around one of the bend radius protectors, thence around the other of said bend radius protectors, thence through a clamp secured to one of said poles.

6. (currently amended) A method for supporting subscriber specific fiber optic drop wire of the type comprising a pair of tensile members and a optical fiber therebetween extending from a cable closure containing a connection between the fiber optic drop wire and a fiber optic cable supported by utility poles, said method comprising steps of suspending the cable closure from the fiber optic cable in the vicinity of a selected pole,

suspending a bend radius protector having a grooved periphery of a radius at least as great as the minimum drop wire bend radius, from the fiber optic cable at a point on the cable further from the selected pole than the cable closure,

passing the fiber optic drop wire around the periphery of the bend radius protector and back towards the selected pole, and then

clamping the fiber optic drop wire to the selected pole.

7. (currently amended) A method for supporting subscriber specific fiber optic drop wire of the type comprising a pair of tensile members and a optical fiber therebetween extending from a cable closure containing a connection between the fiber optic drop wire and a fiber optic cable supported by utility poles, said method comprising steps of suspending the cable closure from the fiber optic cable in the vicinity of a selected pole,

suspending from the fiber optic cable a pair of bend radius protectors, each having a grooved periphery of a radius at least as great as the minimum drop wire bend radius, the bend radius protectors straddling the cable closure so that one bend radius protector is closer to the selected pole than the cable closure, and one is further away,

passing the fiber optic drop wire from the cable closure around the periphery of the bend radius protector closer to the pole, then around the periphery of the bend radius protector further away, then back toward the selected pole, and

clamping the fiber optic drop wire to the selected pole.